



For information (or as indicated) contact:

Chris Shofner

**Public Information Officer
The City of Murfreesboro, Tenn.**

111 Vine St.
P.O. Box 1139
Murfreesboro, TN 37133-1139
Phone: (615) 848-3245
Mobile: (615) 642-3230
Email: cshofner@murfreesborotn.gov

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE *(Nov. 27, 2012)*

MURFREESBORO, Tenn. – Later this week, Hoover, Inc. will begin paving about one mile of St. Andrews Drive with a different mix of asphalt designed to create more friction where the rubber meets the road.

Responding to questions asked about what seemed an inordinately high number of traffic crashes in the St. Andrews Drive area, Murfreesboro's traffic engineer Ram Balachandran painstakingly sifted through approximately a full year's crash data as first reported to him.

After a closer look at the 57 crashes reported in that area, the engineer found that only 26 crashes applied to St. Andrews Drive, he said.

"After actually looking through the crashes for those 26," Balachandran said, "my analysis showed the concentration of crashes was between Roscommon Drive and Cason Trail. That's where we identified the anomaly."

It's often difficult to determine the causes of a crash, the engineer said. A person's driving habits and skills, speed, concentration of traffic, the environment, inattention and the weather can all be contributing factors.

A large portion of the traffic crashes occurred in wet weather, the engineer said.

Murfreesboro City Engineer Chris Griffith said recently the high number of wet weather crashes, among other reasons, were among reasons the alternative asphalt (mixed with a higher number of certain types of polymers) was chosen.

"This mix should create more traction," Griffith said.

The project should require approximately three weeks to complete and will begin with milling the old pavement before replacing it with the higher friction mix, Griffith indicated.

No changes in the roadway's path are planned, Balachandran said.